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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/787,389	05/01/2001	Kenneth S. Hancock	36006/WWM/11	9485

7590 07/01/2004

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New York, NY 10020-1105

EXAMINER
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KLIMACH, PAULA W

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2135

DATE MAILED: 07/01/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

114

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/787,389	HANCOCK ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Paula W Klimach	2135	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
  - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
  - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
  - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 February 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112*

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

**Claim 1** is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In lines 13-14 the claim states "allowing the resetting of a password on the consumer device if the central key is found to have to the local key for a predetermined without entering the original password." The claim does not disclose the conditions that allow the resetting of a password. In order to expedite examination of this application the examiner will assume this was supposed to read, "...if the central key is found using the local key and predetermine without entering the original password."

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

**Claims 1-4** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Vanstone et al. (20010056535) in view of O'Connell (5,991,882).

*In reference to claim 1*, Vanstone discloses a system for verification of the server by a client wherein the client calculates the hash function of the client ID (column 1 paragraph 0023) and communicates this client ID to the server, central location (page 2 paragraph 0023). The server (central location) then performs a hash on the client ID to provide the client with the authentication information and therefore the hash is used as a key to the client (page 2 paragraph 0025). The information is sent to the client (consumer device), wherein the client performs a

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mathematical function on the information, one or more items, to extract the value  $y$ , which it uses later. The applicant does not define local key, as a result the office will define the local key as the key that is used by in the consumer device; therefore the value  $y$  is used in the client and acts as the local key.

Vanstone does not disclose the authentication of the client for the use of resetting the password and information about the user displayed by the consumer device.

O'Connell discloses a system for the automatic reset of the user password wherein the consumer information is displayed on the consumer device (FIG. 4). The password is then reset if the information matches the information entered by the user (column 6 line 63 to column 7 line 13).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to use the system disclosed by O'Connell to perform the automatic reset of the password in the system that is authenticated by Vanstone while displaying the system specific information of Vanstone as in the system of O'Connell. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because for security the identity of the user needs to be verified before resetting the user's password a person having the user's name may fraudulently obtain access to a computing system.

*In reference to claim 2*, wherein the mathematical functions are one-way hashing functions (pages 1-2 paragraph 0023).

*In reference to claim 3*, wherein the one or more items of information that are specific to the particular consumer device are unique to the particular consumer device (page 1 paragraph 0023).

*In reference to claim 4*, wherein the one or more items of information that are specific to the particular consumer device are rare, but not necessarily unique (page 1 paragraph 0023).

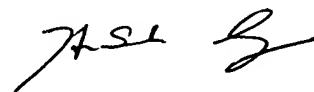
***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Paula W Klimach whose telephone number is (703) 305-8421. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon to Thr 9:30 a.m to 5:30 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kim Vu can be reached on (703) 305-4393. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

PWK  
Friday, June 25, 2004

  
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